

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /089 W

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R 051941Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2666

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T BONN 14549

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: FRG-PROPOSED INSERT IN
SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT

REF: STATE 210583

1. EMBOFF MET ON SEPT. 5 WITH DISARMAMENT
COMMISSIONER ROTH WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MBFR
DIRECTOR RUTH TO CONVEY THE USG POSITION CONTAINED
REFTEL. WE LEFT PAPER WITH THEM BASED UPON
PARAS 2-9 REFTEL.

2. AMBASSADOR ROTH AND RUTH OFFERED INFORMAL
COMMENTS ON THE USG POSITION. AMBASSADOR ROTH BEGAN
BY NOTING THAT THE FRG WANTED TO AVOID SENDING ANY
WRONG SIGNALS TO THE EASTERN SIDE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY
OF THE ALLIANCE CONSIDERING REDUCTIONS IN EUROPEAN
EQUIPMENT. AMBASSADOR ROTH REPEATED HIS POINT ABOUT
"SIGNALS" SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE
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DISCUSSION. HE SAID THE FRG IS CONCERNED ABOUT

AVOIDING ANY UNFAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT WHICH MIGHT ENSUE IN PHASE II. HE POINTED OUT THAT WESTERN INSISTENCE ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET TANKS WAS THE SOLE EXCEPTION THUS FAR TO THE FOCUS ON MANPOWER.

3. RUTH ADDED THAT THE FRG MERELY WANTS TO CONFIRM THE ALLIANCE POSITION. HE SAID OPTION III IS BASICALLY A NEW "FOREIGN ELEMENT", AND IT MUST BE MADE CLEAR TO THE OTHER SIDE THAT THE ORIGINAL ALLIANCE POSITION WILL NOT BE ALTERED. THE ALLIANCE MUST AVOID AWAKENING EASTERN HOPES THAT OPTION III OPENS THE DOOR TO EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT REDUCTIONS. RUTH CONTINUED THE FRG WANTS TO ENSURE THAT THIS POINT IS CLEAR IN THE INTERNAL ALLIANCE UNDERSTANDING. HE SAID THE SOVIETS WILL PERCEIVE OPTION III AS OPENING THE DOOR FOR EQUIPMENT REDUCTIONS, AND HE EXPRESSED THE FEAR THAT THE SOVIETS WILL ACCEPT OPTION III "PROVIDED" EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT REDUCTIONS ARE INCLUDED. MOREOVER, RUTH CONTINUED, THE IMPLICATION OF OPTION III IS DIFFERENT FOR THE US AS COMPARED TO REDUCING COMPARABLE EUROPEAN SYSTEMS, MENTIONING IN THIS CONTEXT THE NEED TO AVOID AN ARMS CONTROL ZONE IN CENTRAL EUROPE. RUTH SAID THE FOCUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON MANPOWER REDUCTIONS COULD NOT BE MAINTAINED IF IT IS NOT DEFINITELY SPELLED OUT THAT EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT REDUCTIONS ARE EXCLUDED FROM BOTH PHASES. RUTH CONCLUDED HIS ARGUMENT BY SAYING THE AHG HAS NOT RECEIVED CLEAR GUIDANCE ABOUT WHAT TO SAY TO THE SOVIETS WHEN THEY ASK THE INEVITABLE QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT ELEMENTS COULD ALSO BE INCLUDED.

4. IN SUMMING UP, RUTH SAID TWO THINGS ARE REALLY REQUIRED AT THE PRESENT TIME: FIRST, ASSURANCE WITHIN THE ALLIANCE OF THE NON-INCLUSION OF EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT IN EITHER PHASE I OR PHASE II; AND SECOND, PROVISION OF GUIDANCE TO THE AHG TO ENABLE WESTERN NEGOTIATORS TO RESPOND TO THE ANTICIPATED SOVIET QUESTION ON THE SUBJECT.

5. AT THIS POINT, AMBASSADOR ROTH CAUTIONED THAT THE
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QUESTION OF EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT REDUCTIONS HAD NOT YET BEEN CLARIFIED AMONG THE ALLIES. FURTHERMORE, HE SAID IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE FRG TO PREEMPT ALLIED INTEREST IN THIS QUESTION.

6. IN CONCLUDING THE DISCUSSION, AMBASSADOR ROTH ASKED RUTH TO TAKE THE USG POSITION INTO CONSIDERATION AND TRY TO DEVELOP SOME LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD MEET THE

USG CONCERN. RUTH SAID HE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH
WITH US WHEN THE FRG IS READY TO RESPOND FORMALLY TO
THE USG POSITION.
HILLENBRAND

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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